

Attorney Docket No.: DE030369

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Previously Presented) An adjusting device for adjusting imaging parameters of an X-ray apparatus, comprising:

a user interface adapted to, with the aid of a preliminary image, allow a user to specify an image region of interest and a visibility criterion desired for this image region; and

a data processing device arranged to carry out the following steps:

a) calculation of adjusted imaging parameters of the X-ray apparatus, by use of which the visibility criterion is achieved for the given image region of interest; and

b) control of the X-ray apparatus on the basis of the calculated, adjusted imaging parameters,

wherein the visibility criterion is the contrast-to-noise ratio of the image region of interest.

2. (Previously Presented) A device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the data processing device is arranged to determine, in a preliminary image, the current value of the visibility criterion for a predetermined image region of interest.

3. (Previously Presented) A device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the imaging parameters influence the dose per exposure, the intensity and/or the quality of the X-ray radiation generated with the X-ray apparatus.

4. (Previously Presented) A device as claimed in claim 3, wherein the imaging parameters include the tube current, the tube voltage, the pulse length and/or the setting values of filter elements.

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5. (Cancelled).

6. (Previously Presented) A device as claimed in claim 1, wherein, in a preliminary image, on the basis of at least one pixel predefined via the user interface, the data processing device is arranged to segment an image region of interest.

7. (Previously Presented) A device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the data processing device is arranged to take account of the influence of image processing procedures, in particular noise filtration, when adjusted imaging parameters are calculated.

8. (Previously Presented) A device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the device includes a control module for feedback control of imaging parameters of the X-ray apparatus during an X-ray image.

9. (Currently Amended) An adjusting device for adjusting imaging parameters of an X-ray apparatus comprising:

a user interface adapted to, with the aid of a preliminary image, allow a user to specify an image region of interest and a visibility criterion desired for an image region; and

a data processing device arranged to carry out the following steps:

a) calculation of adjusted imaging parameters of the X-ray apparatus, by use of which the predetermined visibility criterion is achieved for the given image region of interest; and

b) control of the X-ray apparatus on the basis of the calculated, adjusted imaging parameters,

wherein the device includes a detector for detecting changes in the imaging geometry and that the data processing device is arranged to adjust the calculated imaging

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parameters in the case of a change in the imaging geometry such that the predetermined visibility criterion is still achieved, and

wherein the visibility criterion is a contrast-to-noise ratio of the image region of interest.

10. (Previously Presented) A method for adjusting imaging parameters of an X-ray apparatus, comprising the following steps:

- a) generation of a preliminary image with starting values for the imaging parameters;
- b) interactive stipulation of an image region of interest and of a visibility criterion desired for this image region;
- c) calculation of adjusted imaging parameters for the X-ray apparatus, during the use of which the predetermined visibility criterion is achieved for the predetermined image region;
- d) control of the X-ray apparatus based on the calculated, adjusted imaging parameters.

11. (Previously Presented) X-ray apparatus having an adjusting device according to claim 1.

12. (Currently Amended) A device as claimed in claim [[5]] 9, wherein the data processing device is arranged to determine, in a preliminary image, the current value of the visibility criterion for a predetermined image region of interest.

13. (Currently Amended) A device as claimed in claim [[5]] 9, wherein the imaging parameters influence the dose per exposure, the intensity and/or the quality of the X-ray radiation generated with the X-ray apparatus.

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14. (Previously Presented) A device as claimed in claim 13, wherein the imaging parameters include the tube current, the tube voltage, the pulse length and/or the setting values of filter elements.

15. (Currently Amended) A device as claimed in claim [[5]] 9, wherein the device includes a control module for feedback control of imaging parameters of the X-ray apparatus during an X-ray image.

16. (Currently Amended) A device as claimed in claim [[5]] 9, wherein, in a preliminary image, on the basis of at least one pixel predefined via the user interface, the data processing device is arranged to segment an image region of interest.

17. (Currently Amended) X-ray apparatus having an adjusting device according to claim [[5]] 9.

18. (Previously Presented) A device as claimed in claim 9, wherein the data processing device is arranged to determine, in a preliminary image, the current value of the visibility criterion for a predetermined image region of interest.

19. (Previously Presented) A device as claimed in claim 9, wherein the imaging parameters influence the dose per exposure, the intensity and/or the quality of the X-ray radiation generated with the X-ray apparatus.

20. (Cancelled).